

Application No.: 10/650610

Docket No.: TOW-038

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell comprising a membrane electrode assembly and separators for sandwiching said membrane electrode assembly, said membrane electrode assembly including a pair of electrodes and an electrolyte membrane interposed between said electrodes, said electrodes each including an electrode catalyst layer in contact with said electrolyte membrane and a diffusion member in contact with said electrode catalyst layer, wherein said diffusion member includes a foamed member made of metal material, and a resinous member in said foamed member, ~~said resinous member comprising resinous flow field walls flush with said foamed member for forming a reactant gas flow field in said foamed member, and a reactant gas flowing through said reactant gas flow field along said electrode, and~~ ~~wherein said resinous flow field walls extend from opposite ends of said electrode alternately, and said reactant gas flow field comprises a passage extending in a serpentine pattern~~ wherein said resinous member comprises resinous supports for supporting a load applied to said fuel cell in a stacking direction of said fuel cell, and wherein a metal stopper is interposed between said resinous supports, and said resinous supports are formed by impregnating said foamed member with resin.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4.—9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim-9_1, wherein said resinous supports are formed in said foamed member, and spaced by a predetermined distance from a surface of said electrode catalyst layer facing said foamed member.

11. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim-9_1, wherein said resinous supports provided on one side of said electrolyte membrane and said resinous supports provided on the other side of said electrolyte membrane are in alignment with each other in said stacking direction.

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12. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell according to claim ~~11~~ 1, wherein a plurality of said fuel cells are stacked to form a fuel cell stack, and said resinous supports in each of said fuel cells are in alignment with each other in said stacking direction.

13.—14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell ~~according to claim 9~~ comprising a membrane electrode assembly and separators for sandwiching said membrane electrode assembly, said membrane electrode assembly including a pair of electrodes and an electrolyte membrane interposed between said electrodes, said electrodes each including an electrode catalyst layer in contact with said electrolyte membrane and a diffusion member in contact with said electrode catalyst layer,

wherein said diffusion member includes a foamed member made of metal material, and a resinous member in said foamed member,

wherein said resinous member comprises resinous supports for supporting a load applied to said fuel cell in a stacking direction of said fuel cell, and

wherein said resinous supports are planar plates embedded in said foamed member, and formed by impregnation.

16. (New) A fuel cell according to claim 15, wherein said resinous supports are formed in said foamed member, and spaced by a predetermined distance from a surface of said electrode catalyst layer facing said foamed member.

17. (New) A fuel cell according to claim 15, wherein said resinous supports provided on one side of said electrolyte membrane and said resinous supports provided on the other side of said electrolyte membrane are in alignment with each other in said stacking direction.

18. (New) A fuel cell according to claim 15, wherein a plurality of said fuel cells are stacked to form a fuel cell stack, and said resinous supports in each of said fuel cells are in alignment with each other in said stacking direction.